

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-15. (canceled)

Claim 16. (currently amended) An electronic mail communication apparatus transmitting an e-mail to a destination via a mail server, the electronic mail communication apparatus comprising:

a scanner configured to scan image data, ~~the scanner being distinct from the mail server;~~

a memory configured to store a limit capacity of the mail server, the limit capacity indicating a maximum data amount that the mail server can store for one e-mail transmission; and

a controller configured to convert the image data into data for Internet transmission, to attach the converted data to the e-mail, and to transmit, to the destination, the e-mail to which the converted data is attached, via the mail server,

the controller being further configured to compare the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached with the limit capacity of the mail server, and to notify a user of the electronic mail communication apparatus of an excess of the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached over the limit capacity of the mail server when the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached exceeds the limit capacity of the mail server.

Claim 17. (previously presented) The electronic mail communication apparatus according to claim 16 further comprises a speaker which notifies a user of the electronic

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mail communication apparatus of an excess of the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached over the limit capacity of the mail server, via a sound.

Claim 18. (previously presented) The electronic mail communication apparatus according to claim 16 further comprises a display which notifies a user of the electronic mail communication apparatus of an excess of the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached over the limit capacity of the mail server.

Claim 19. (previously presented) The electronic mail communication apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the mail server comprises at least a transmitting mail server and a receiving mail server, and the maximum data amount comprises a smaller of a data amount that the transmitting mail server can store and a data amount that the receiving mail server can store.

Claim 20. (currently amended) An electronic mail communication apparatus transmitting an e-mail to a destination via a mail server, the mail server being distinct from the electronic mail communication apparatus, the electronic mail communication apparatus comprising:

a scanner configured to scan image data, ~~the scanner being distinct from the mail server~~;

a memory configured to store a limit capacity of the mail server, the limit capacity indicating a maximum data amount that the mail server can store for one e-mail transmission; and

a controller configured to convert the image data into data for Internet transmission, to attach the converted data to the e-mail, and to transmit, to the destination, the e-mail to which the converted data is attached, via the mail server,

the controller being further configured to compare the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached with the limit capacity of the mail server, to divide the image data into a plurality of pieces when the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached exceeds the limit capacity of the mail server, to convert the divided image data into data for the Internet transmission, to attach each of the divided and converted data to an e-mail, and to transmit, to the destination, each e-mail to which the divided and converted data is attached, via the mail server.

Claim 21. (currently amended) An electronic mail communication apparatus transmitting an e-mail to a destination via a mail server, the electronic mail communication apparatus comprising:

a scanner configured to scan image data,~~the scanner being distinct from the mail server;~~

a memory configured to store a limit capacity of the mail server, the limit capacity indicating a maximum data amount that the mail server can store for one e-mail transmission; and

a controller configured to convert the image data into data for Internet transmission, to attach the converted data to the e-mail, and to transmit, to the destination, the e-mail to which the converted data is attached, via the mail server,

the controller being further configured to compare the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached with the limit capacity of the mail server, to reduce the data amount of the image data by changing a resolution of the image data when the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached exceeds the limit capacity of the mail server, to convert the reduced image data into data for the

Internet transmission, to attach the converted data to the e-mail, and to transmit, to the destination, the e-mail to which the converted data is attached, via the mail server.

Claim 22. (currently amended) An electronic mail communication apparatus being connected to a plurality of mail servers and transmitting an e-mail to a destination via one mail server of the plurality of the mail servers, the one mail server being designated for the transmission of the electronic mail communication apparatus, the electronic mail communication apparatus comprising:

a scanner configured to scan image data, ~~the scanner being distinct from the plurality of mail servers;~~

a memory configured to store a limit capacity and an IP address corresponding to each of the plurality of the mail servers, the limit capacity indicating a maximum data amount that the mail server can store; and

a controller configured to convert the image data into data for Internet transmission, to attach the converted data to the e-mail, and to transmit, to the destination, the e-mail to which the converted data is attached, via the designated mail server,

the controller being further configured to compare the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached with the limit capability of the designated mail server, to select another mail server that has a capacity to store the image data when the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached exceeds the limit capacity of the designated mail server, and to transmit, to the destination, the e-mail to which the converted data is attached via the another mail server, based on the IP address corresponding to the another mail server.

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Claim 23. (currently amended) An electronic mail communication method for transmitting image data to a destination via a mail server, the electronic mail communication method comprising:

- storing a limit capacity of the mail server, the limit capacity indicating a maximum data amount that the mail server can store for one e-mail transmission;

- scanning image data, ~~the scanning not being performed at the mail server;~~

- converting the image data into data for Internet transmission;

- attaching the converted data to the e-mail;

- transmitting, to the destination, the e-mail to which the converted data is attached, via the mail server;

- comparing the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached with the limit capacity of the mail server before the e-mail to which the converted data is attached is transmitted to the destination via the mail server;

- notifying a user ~~of the electronic mail communication apparatus~~ of an excess of the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached over the limit capacity of the mail server when the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached exceeds the limit capacity of the mail server.

Claim 24. (currently amended) An electronic mail communication method for transmitting image data to a destination via a mail server, the electronic mail communication method comprising:

- storing a limit capacity of the mail server, the limit capacity indicating a maximum data amount that the mail server can store for one e-mail transmission;

- scanning image data, ~~the scanning not being performed at the mail server;~~

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comparing the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached with the limit capacity of the mail server;

dividing the image data into a plurality of pieces when the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached exceeds the limit capacity of the mail server, the dividing not being performed at the mail server;

converting the divided image data into data for the Internet transmission;

attaching each of the divided and converted data to an e-mail;

transmitting, to the destination, the e-mail to which the divided and converted data is attached, via the mail server.

Claim 25. (currently amended) An electronic mail communication method for transmitting image data to a destination via a mail server, the electronic mail communication method comprising:

storing a limit capacity of the mail server, the limit capacity indicating a maximum data amount that the mail server can store for one e-mail transmission;

~~scanning image data, the scanning not being performed at the mail server;~~

comparing the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached with the limit capacity of the mail server;

reducing the data amount of the image data by changing a resolution of the image data when the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached exceeds the limit capacity of the mail server;

converting the reduced image data into data for the Internet transmission;

attaching the converted data to the e-mail; and

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transmitting, to the destination, the e-mail to which the converted data is attached, via the mail server.

Claim 26. (currently amended) An electronic mail communication method for transmitting image data to a destination via one mail server of a plurality of mail servers, the one mail server being designated for the transmission, the electronic mail communication method comprising:

storing a limit capacity and an IP address corresponding to each of the plurality of the mail servers, the limit capacity indicating a maximum data amount that the mail server can store;

~~scanning image data, the scanning not being performed at any of the plurality of the mail servers;~~

converting the image data into data for Internet transmission;

attaching the converted data to the e-mail;

transmitting, to the destination, the e-mail to which the converted data is attached via the mail server;

comparing the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached with the limit capability of the designated mail server;

selecting another mail server that has a capacity to store the image data when the data amount of the e-mail to which the converted data is attached exceeds the limit capacity of the designated mail server;

transmitting, to the destination, the e-mail to which the converted data is attached via the another mail server, based on the IP address corresponding to the another mail server.

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Claim 27. (new) The electronic mail communication apparatus according to claim 16, the scanner being distinct from the mail server.

Claim 28. (new) The electronic mail communication apparatus according to claim 20, the scanner being distinct from the mail server.

Claim 29. (new) The electronic mail communication apparatus according to claim 21, the scanner being distinct from the mail server.

Claim 30. (new) The electronic mail communication apparatus according to claim 22, the scanner being distinct from the plurality of mail servers.

Claim 31. (new) The electronic mail communication method according to claim 23, the scanning not being performed at the mail server.

Claim 32. (new) The electronic mail communication method according to claim 24, the scanning not being performed at the mail server.

Claim 33. (new) The electronic mail communication method according to claim 25, the scanning not being performed at the mail server.

Claim 34. (new) The electronic mail communication method according to claim 26, the scanning not being performed at any of the plurality of mail servers.